GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:172
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2001
DEVELOPMENT OF INLAND WATERWAYS
MOHAMMED SHAHABUDDIN;RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any policy to boost inland waterways activities with private participation in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of the private companies who have offered their services in this regard;

(c) whether there is any proposal to amend the present Inland Waterways Authority of India Act,1985; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE & COMPANY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

(a), (b), (c) & (d) : A statement is laid on the table of the Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT INREPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO.172 FOR 2ND AUGUST, 2001 RAISED BY RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH AND SHRI(MOHD.) SHAHABUDDIN REG. DEVELOPMENT OF INLAND WATERWAYS SABHA

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. The Government has formulated a policypackage which envisages Inland Waterways Authority of India(IWAI) to enter into joint ventures with private sector, equity participation upto a maximum of 40% by Govt. in BOT projects, tax exemption as available in infrastructure sector, enhancement in depreciation rate for inland vessels at par with the rate applicable to ocean going vessels, Vessels Building Subsidy of 30% for ship owners for inland vessels built in Indian Shipyards and for levying minimum customs duty on imported equipment and machinery for the development of inland waterways. Conferences to explain the salient features of the new policy to interested entrepreneurs have been held . The list of Companies that have shown interest in the IWT sector is attached (Annexure -I).

(c) & (d) : Yes, Sir. Necessary amendments to IWAI Act,1985 have been proposed to empower IWAI to raise bonds from the market, to form Joint Ventures with interested parties to encourage investment in this sector and for equity participation by Govt. in BOT projects.
ANNEXURE-I

NAME OF SOME OF THE PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTOR SHIPPERS/ CARRIERS WHO HAVE SHOWN INTEREST SECTOR

1. Oswal Group of Companies

2. J.P. Rewa Cement

3. Prism Cement

4. Cement Manufacturers Association

5. Indo-Gulf fertilizers
6. Kundan Rice mills

7 Ruchi Soya

8. Jute Corporation of India

9. Hindustan Levers
10. Numaligarh Refinery Ltd.

11. Assam Oil Division
12. Rajmahal Quartz and Sand
13. Shri Behari Enterprises
14. Aditya Fuels
15. Pioneer Industries
16. A.K. Enterprises
17. Tea Merchants Association
18. Patna Timber Merchants Association
19. CONCOR
20. NTPC
21. OCC
22. Vivada inland Shipping
23. Shahi Shipping
24. Chowgley Shipping
25. Goa Barge Owners Association
26. Eastern Navigation